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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

This document is hereby regraded to
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letter of 16 October 1972 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
regarding Polish Elements in

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SUPPLEMENT

COUNTRY Argentine/Poland

SUBJECT Political Situation among Polish Elements in Argentina

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ORIGIN

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SOURCE

1. The annual assembly of the Union Polaca (Union of Poles) in Argentina was held on 1 June 1947 in the headquarters of the Sociedad El Hogar Polaco (Polish Home Society) at Calle Corrida 3972, Buenos Aires. Tadeo Wojnowski, then editor of Kurier Polski, presided over the meeting. Because of insufficient time to devote to the organization, Pedro Zalowski, who has been President for the past four years, was compelled to resign, and Major Antonio Badayusky, representative of General Anders in South America, was elected President.
2. Representatives from the Communist-dominated Sociedad Polonia Libre "Marie Konon-nicka" were present in the assembly. Shortly after the meeting was called to order, one of the latter group presented a note to the chairman, suggesting a unification of all Argentine Poles and collaboration with the presently consti-tuted Warsaw government. The suggestion met with a vigorous rejection from the assembly, and the left-wing group was compelled to leave the hall.
3. Although the great percentage of Poles in Argentina are uneducated laborers and farmers, and because of tradition and their Roman Catholicism would seem to be anti-Communist, they can become a fertile field for Communist propaganda. The present world situation is extremely difficult for them to understand, and as a result many favor collaborating with the Warsaw government, although they have no sympathy for the members of the "Marie Kononnicka" Society. These Poles deny either pro-Communist or pro-Russian sympathies, but they are said to be impelled to their theory of collaboration with the Warsaw government for the following reasons:
 - a. Antipathy developed towards the United States and the British govern-ments because of the Yalta agreement; although they are somewhat mollified at the moment because of the firmness adopted by the United States towards the Soviets.
 - b. The return of Mikolajczyk to Warsaw and his collaboration for a time with the Biorut government; although the recent election returns in Poland, and the turn of events are said to have again disillusioned some of those who favored collaboration.
 - c. Commercial advantages to be gained in dealing with the Warsaw govern-ment and the Polish Commercial Mission.

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4. Up to the present, Communist propaganda has had little effect on the Poles, but there are two recent factors which may have an eventual effect on their anti-Communist attitude:

a. The sale and possible disappearance of the Kurier Polski, the only anti-Communist newspaper published in Argentina.

b. The adoption by the new Polish Minister to Argentina, Stefan Szumowski, of a policy of conciliation toward all Polish groups on one hand, while probably actively supporting the "Marie Konopnicka" Society on the other.

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